

Carter's contributions to agriculture and his community have helped agriculture in the county achieve this status. After receiving his Bachelor of Science in Animal Husbandry from California Polytechnic University in 1952, Larry served in the United States Navy for 4 years. Between 1963 and 1972, he ran his own laying hen ranch. For the following 15 years, he served as Executive Manager of the Stanislaus County Farm Bureau while farming 25 acres of almonds. Since 1987, Mr. Carter has worked for Stanislaus Farm Supply.

Larry's dedication to the community and agriculture organizations has been evident through his work as a volunteer. He has worked with the Denair Lions Club, Hughson 4-H, Modesto Chamber of Commerce, Stanislaus County Jail Site Committee, Stanislaus Ag Foundation, and many others.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Larry Carter for his induction into the 2003 Stanislaus County Ag Center Foundation Ag Hall of Fame. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Larry for his dedication and hard work.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE MARATHON JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER AND ITS RABBI GARY GREENE

#### HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Marathon Jewish Community Center in Douglaston, New York and its new Rabbi Gary Greene who officially took the reins on December 7, 2003.

The Marathon Jewish Community Center is a conservative synagogue which has served the communities of Douglaston, Little Neck, Bayside and Great Neck for more than 50 years. The facility includes a religious school, a junior congregation and adult education programs.

Earlier this year, the synagogue recruited Rabbi Gary Greene from Temple Shalom in Framingham, Massachusetts. Prior to his service there, Rabbi Greene served the members of Congregation B'Nai Jacob in Longmeadow, Massachusetts. While at Temple Shalom, Rabbi Greene helped to revitalize Adult Education, and for his efforts was the recipient of the Solomon Schechter Award for Adult Education. Among other accomplishments, Rabbi Greene has expanded the social and cultural programs of the Temple and introduced services and rituals, including Selichot, Tashlich, Healing Services and Meditation Services.

Rabbi Greene has also dedicated himself to teaching. Over the years, he has educated and enlightened thousands of children and adults. He taught most grades at the former United Hebrew School and served on its Board of Directors, Education Committee and Rabbis' Committee. He was instrumental in the creation of B'Nai Jacob's Hebrew School and the B'yachad Hebrew High School. Rabbi Green has served on its Board of Directors, Education Committee and as the Co-Chair of the Education Committee in charge of Judaic programming. Rabbi Greene also served as a teacher and adviser to Camp Ramah in Palmers, Massachusetts.

Rabbi Green also served as the Jewish chaplain for students at Westfield State College in Westfield and Bay Path College in Longmeadow. He was also an active member of the Longmeadow Clergy Association as well as the Interfaith Council of Western Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me now in congratulating Rabbi Gary Greene and the Marathon Jewish Center for their service to the community. I am confident that the Marathon Jewish Center will continue to enrich the lives of its congregants for many years to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO MS. MARGARET ANN ABDALLA

#### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding citizen of California's 29th Congressional District, Margaret Ann Abdalla. Ms. Abdalla has served on the South Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education for 16 years and has been a positive force in the greater South Pasadena area for much longer.

A Southern California native and University of Southern California graduate, Margaret Ann moved to South Pasadena in 1969. She began her community service by volunteering with the South Pasadena Parent Teacher Association, Little League, and South Pasadena Educational Foundation. Ms. Abdalla also raised three children, Lisa, Tony and Alex, all who attended South Pasadena's public schools.

In 1987, Margaret Ann was elected to the South Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education. Ms. Abdalla has worked with several board members and four superintendents during her tenure, serving as Board President three times. Under her leadership, some of the Board's accomplishments include the passage of two school bond measures in 1995 and 2002, the formation and bonding of today's administrative team, and the transition of the junior high to a middle school program 12 years ago. In 1996, Margaret Ann was the recipient of the South Pasadena Parent Teacher Association's Honorary Service Award for meritorious service.

As a member of the South Pasadena School Board, Margaret Ann participated in organizations such as the California School Boards Association, the Downtown Revitalization Task Force and the Los Angeles Annenberg Metropolitan Project. In addition, Ms. Abdalla was a founding member of the Five-Star Coalition, a coalition of the Burbank, Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, Pasadena and South Pasadena School Districts, established for the purpose of collaborating with local legislators on issues of mutual interest to the school districts.

The time, energy and love Margaret Ann has given to the community are extraordinary, and the residents of South Pasadena have benefited greatly. At this time, I ask all Members to join with me in commending Margaret Ann Abdalla for her many years of dedicated service to the South Pasadena community.

#### ON THE PASSING OF WAYNE T. PALMER

#### HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the 4th Congressional District's finest citizens. On Saturday, November 29, 2003, Wayne T. Palmer, of Sparta, Tennessee, passed away at his home.

Wayne Palmer was not a master of business or of politics. Mr. Palmer was a man of meager means but overwhelmingly generous spirit. He was a man who cut a giant figure in his community through the devotion of his time and energy to the causes he loved.

Wayne Palmer served as a volunteer leader in the Boy Scouts of America for more than 35 years. During that long tenure, he served variously as Assistant Scoutmaster and Scoutmaster of Troop 175 in Sparta, as the camping chairman of both the Upper Cumberland and Black Fox Districts, and as a leader of the camping committee of the Middle Tennessee Council. Significantly, these are just a few of the roles he fulfilled during his many years of service to Scouting.

Mr. Palmer was honored for his guidance to young men and leadership in scouting repeatedly. He was awarded the Long Rifle Award for his leadership in both the districts he served. Mr. Palmer was honored with the Silver Beaver Award—the highest honor accorded adult leaders by the Middle Tennessee Council—for his service to the council. In addition, he was a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow—Scouting's Honor Society—and was repeatedly honored for his service to the Wa-HiNasa Lodge, including receipt of the Founders' Award and Josh Sain Memorial Award.

Mr. Speaker, if we're lucky, we encounter few people in life who have the kind of positive influence over the lives and maturation of young men that Wayne Palmer had. He was a man utterly devoid of self-interest and focused almost entirely on the education and improvement of the lives of those boys and young men who had the tremendous good fortune to be guided by his wisdom—be they Boy Scouts (his first and lifelong love), Little League baseball players or otherwise. It is rare—very rare indeed—to find a person who acts altruistically, who places the interests of others consistently ahead of his own, and who is truly selfless. Wayne Palmer was just such a person, and the lives of many Tennesseans are far richer for having known him.

Wayne Palmer was a great teacher and a great man. The lessons he taught were lessons for life. Of that, I have no doubt. Wayne Palmer taught as much or more by example, as he did through more common instruction. Mr. Palmer walked the talk. He never asked anyone to do anything he was not himself willing to do. He was, in the eyes of so many, the very embodiment of that pole star of principles, the Scout Oath and Law. Mr. Speaker, Wayne Palmer was for many Tennesseans the Great Scoutmaster of legend and myth.

White County and the Fourth Congressional District of Tennessee lost one of those rare bright lights on November 29 when Wayne T. Palmer passed from this mortal coil. Accordingly, I rise today to express my deepest sympathy to his wife, Jan, and his son, Garrett, on